

of keys **12a** are provided by printing or transfer on the surface of the key sheet **12**. Each key **12a** consists of a character such as a letter, a number, and a symbol to be input by touch of the key; and a circle surrounding the character. In this embodiment, twelve keys, that is to say, ten numeric keys: 0 to 9 and two symbol keys: # and * are provided by printing or transfer. The number and position of the keys **12a** correspond to those of the second input switches **7**.

[0045] The keys **12a** may be printed on a flat surface of the key sheet **12**, may be printed on concavities or convexities formed on the surface of the key sheet **12**, or may be printed on convexities formed of elastic such as rubber on the surface of the key sheet **12**.

[0046] The key sheet **12** is provided according to needs such as design concept. That is to say, the input device **1** may do without the key sheet **12**, or more specifically, the keys **12a**. In this case, it is preferable to cover the surface of the first input sensor **6** with a protective sheet.

[0047] As shown in **FIG. 5**, the input device **1** of this embodiment has a control unit **13** for controlling operation of each unit. The control unit **13** is electrically connected with at least the display unit **2** and the input unit **3**.

[0048] That is to say, in the input device **1** of this embodiment, the display unit **2** is integrated via a wire as a transmission line with the control unit **13**, or more specifically, with the first input sensor **6** as a first input unit, the second input switches **7** as second input units, and the control unit **13**.

[0049] The control unit **13** has at least a CPU **14**, and a memory **15** such as ROM and RAM with an appropriate capacity. The memory **15** stores at least programs and data necessary for executing the inputting method in which the input data obtained from a touch operation of the first input sensor **6** is displayed provisionally on the display portion **5a** of the display unit **2** and then the input is confirmed by an operation of the second input switches **7**.

[0050] The inputting method will be described more specifically. The input data obtained from a touch operation of the first input sensor **6** is converted into output data used for display corresponding to the input data. The output data are sent to the display unit **2** and displayed provisionally at a predetermined position of the display portion **5a** of the display unit **2**. The provisional display is performed by blinking, difference in luminance, or difference in color. Then, the input is confirmed by the ON operation of the second input switch **7** and the provisional display is changed into a predetermined final display. The confirmed input data may be stored sequentially in a predetermined area of the memory **15**.

[0051] The memory **15** stores various programs such as a program performing power-on initializing, and various data such as data necessary for performing display and past data obtained from input operation.

[0052] It is preferable that the memory **15** store a program for switching two different input modes: a key input mode and a coordinate input mode.

[0053] If a touch of any key **12a** continues for a predetermined time period, the program switches to the key input mode. In this mode, corresponding to a key **12a**, an input signal is provided to the first input sensor **6**. Based on this

input signal, an output signal corresponding to a letter, a number, or a symbol is produced. At a predetermined position of the display portion **5a** of the display unit **2**, the letter, the number, or the symbol is displayed provisionally. If the second input switch **7** corresponding to the key **12a** is operated, the data displayed provisionally are confirmed as input data and stored.

[0054] If the touched position in the first input sensor **6** is moved within the predetermined time period, the coordinate input mode is selected. In this mode, coordinate data is produced from a track of a finger and the like on the first input sensor **6**. In addition, an output signal is produced corresponding to the coordinate data. At a predetermined position of the display portion **5a** of the display unit **2**, graphics showing the track corresponding to the input is displayed provisionally. If the second input switch **7** corresponding to a predetermined key **12a** is operated, the coordinate data displayed provisionally are confirmed as input data and stored.

[0055] The operation of the above embodiment will now be described together with inputting method.

[0056] **FIG. 6** is a flow chart showing an embodiment of inputting method of the present invention. **FIG. 7** is an explanatory view of the initial state of the input unit and the display unit in the embodiment of inputting method of the present invention. **FIG. 8** is an explanatory view of a first input operation state in the embodiment of inputting method of the present invention. **FIG. 9** is an explanatory view of a second input operation state in the embodiment of inputting method of the present invention.

[0057] The inputting method with the input device **1** of this embodiment is in the key input mode.

[0058] As shown in **FIG. 6**, the inputting method of this embodiment is in the initial state in step **01**. In this initial state, as shown in **FIG. 7**, the input unit **3** is not operated and nothing is displayed on the display portion **5a** of the display panel **5** as the display unit **2**. The fixed electrodes **8** and the movable electrodes **9** of the second input switches **7** are out of contact with each other.

[0059] Then, in step **02**, whether a first input operation is performed, that is to say, whether the surface of the first input sensor **6** is touched with a finger of an operator is determined.

[0060] If the determination in step **02** is YES, go to step **03**. In step **03**, a provisional display is performed, that is to say, input data obtained from an operation of the first input sensor **6** are converted into output data and displayed provisionally on the display portion **5a** of the display panel **5**. Then go to step **04**.

[0061] For example, as shown in **FIG. 8**, in the case where a finger of the operator touches the "7" key **12a** of the key sheet **12**, output data for provisionally displaying "7" are produced based on the programs and data stored in the memory **15**. By the output data, a blinking "7" is displayed provisionally on the display portion **5a** of the display panel **5**. The position of the displayed "7" in the display portion **5a** corresponds to the position of the "7" key **12a** in the key sheet **12**.

[0062] When the operator moves his or her finger to another key, input data corresponding to the key is displayed provisionally.